

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 173826

51

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: DECLASS UPON RECEIPT

TAGS:PFOR,KS, KN

SUBJEC : NORTH KOREAN STATEMENT ON NORTH-SOUTH TALKS

1. AT AUGUST 29 PRESS BRIEFING DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN
WAS ASKED FOR US REACTION TO NORTH KOREAN STATEMENT DEMANDING
DISMISSAL LEE HU RAK FROM SOUTH-NORTH COORDINATING COMMITTEE
CO-CHAIRMANSHIP. SPOKESMAN REPLIED WITH FOLLOWING STATEMENT: QUOTE

WE HAVE REPEATEDLY STATED OUR SUPPORT FOR THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
IN THE VARIOUS INITIATIVES THEY HAVE TAKEN WHICH HAVE BROUGHT ABOUT
A CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE WITH NORTH KOREA. YOU MAY REMEMBER IT WAS
THE ROK RED CROSS ASSOCIATION'S PROPOSAL FOR TALKS ON REUNITING
DIVIDED FAMILIES IN AUGUST OF 1971 WHICH BEGAN THIS DIALOGUE. THE
GOVERNMENT IN SEOUL HAS CONSISTENTLY TAKEN A FLEXIBLE AND FORTHCOMING
POSITION IN THE TALKS AND CONTINUES TO DO SO. WE HOPE THE NORTH
KOREANS WILL NOT BREAK OFF THESE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 STATE 173826

CONTACTS WHICH, WE BELIEVE, OFFER THE BEST HOPE OF REDUCING

TENSIONS AND IMPROVING THE WELFARE OF ALL KOREANS -- NORTH
AND SOUTH. END QUOTE. ROGERS

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